

tragedy that has stricken the citizens of Taiwan. I extend condolences to the Ambassador and the numerous families that have been devastated by this earthquake. The people of this country have been great allies to the United States and their ongoing struggle for independence parallels the many perils experienced by my people here in this country.

I have visited Taiwan on numerous occasions and have always been warmly received by both its government officials and private citizens, and believe that it is only right that I continue to carry the torch of friendship during their time of need. While the United States is currently recuperating from the aftermath of its own natural disaster, it is important that we share in Taiwan's grief. I have personally been in contact with the Ambassador and have pledged my full support toward helping them recover from this tragedy. I ask my colleagues in the House to follow my act of solidarity and pledge their support to our comrades in Taiwan.

**THE HERMELIN BRAIN TUMOR
CENTER—NEW HOPE FOR CAN-
CER PATIENTS**

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, this year in the United States some 20,000 new cases of primary brain tumors will be diagnosed, and more than 100,000 cases of cancer migrating to the brain from a different site will be found. Traditional treatment regimens of surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation have not stopped the natural progression of the disease in far too many cases, and new therapies are desperately needed.

Finding new treatments often means years of laboratory investigation, followed by both clinical trials and the examination of results, before such therapies can be deemed successful and made available to patients. Speeding up this process is of vital importance to innumerable cancer patients. With this in mind, friends and family of David B. Hermelin have pledged \$10 million to launch a brain tumor research center at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit.

Mr. Speaker, David Hermelin is the United States Ambassador to Norway, and earlier this year he was successfully treated for a brain tumor. Currently, he is undergoing therapy at the Henry Ford Hospital. The funds donated in his name will launch the Hermelin Brain Tumor Center, housed within the Department of Neurosurgery. The center will be directed by Mark L. Rosenblum, M.D., Chair of the Department of Neurosurgery, and by Tom Mikkelsen, M.D., of the Departments of Neurology and Neurosurgery.

"The center at Henry Ford Hospital is now positioned to make a significant impact on this disease," said Dr. Rosenblum. "With state-of-the-art technology for diagnosis and surgery, with continual ability to provide the most advanced surgery and treatments available, and with new discoveries from our research team, we are confident we will be able to change

life-threatening brain tumors into a chronic, controllable disease like diabetes."

The Hermelin Brain Tumor Center will support three main areas of novel investigation to help control brain tumors: (1) antiinvasion therapy (which stops a tumor from invading healthy brain tissues), (2) gene therapy (which uses scientifically engineered viruses which recognize and kill cancer cells), and (3) antiangiogenesis (which stops a tumor from building its network of blood vessels, effectively starving it). In addition, the Center will sponsor annual brain tumor workshops focusing on each of these three areas of research. Brain tumor scientists from around the world will be invited to share their knowledge and compete for a research grant, thus providing new ways to share novel findings and to use these findings to fund research that will bring new treatments to patients in the most rapid possible manner.

Mr. Speaker, David Hermelin is an outstanding citizen of our Nation, and as United States Ambassador to Norway, he has made an important contribution to strengthening traditional good relations between our country and Norway. In addition, he is a leading philanthropist who has spearheaded major fundraising efforts which have garnered millions of dollars for academic, medical, civic, religious and charitable organizations. The Hermelin Brain Tumor Center is a fitting and unique recognition of his generous contributions. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Ambassador David Hermelin and recognizing the importance of the Hermelin Brain Tumor Center.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 1999

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in my district on September 21, 1999.

If I had been present for rollcall No. 427, I would have voted "yes" if I had been present for rollcall No. 428, I would have voted "yes" if I had been present for rollcall No. 429, I would have voted "yes"

RECOGNIZING ED HARRIS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to recognize the hard work and tireless dedication of Principal Ed Harris to Edwardsville High School. He was recently named Illinois Principal of the Year by MetLife and the National Association of Secondary School Principals. School District Superintendent, Ed Hightower, praised the principal's work. "[Harris] has made positive changes at the High School and has proven quality leadership in this position"

Ed Harris will continue his outstanding work this year at Edwardsville High School. His

goals for the year will include maintaining the safety of students and staff, and ensuring that the administrators are visible and available to students.

A principal like Mr. Harris shows us what a difference individual attention and caring can do for our schools and our children. I would like to thank him for his great contribution to the school and the community.

A TRIBUTE TO BOB REED

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 1999

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like today to recognize Bob Reed, who over the past 25 years has become a local institution as the "chairman of the bar" at one of the most pleasant eating establishments on Capitol Hill, the Monocle.

Nearly a generation of Members of Congress and others who toil on the Hill have found refuge in Bob's company. He is that rarest of personalities in this town: strictly non-partisan and unopinionated, a sympathetic ear for anyone, regardless of their politics or philosophy. For 25 years, he has always met his guests on a positive note—even during those times when there wasn't much to be positive about.

Bob was raised in West Virginia and enlisted in the Navy during World War II. He has resided in Washington since 1951. Since joining the Monocle in September 1974, he has been a friend to me and many other Members of Congress from both parties.

Mr. Speaker, I'm sure you and my colleagues will join me in congratulating Bob Reed on his career milestone, and thank him for providing a quiet harbor from turbulent political seas.

**COMMEMORATING THE RETIRE-
MENT OF ROSA VERRETT WIL-
SON**

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 1999

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the retirement of Ms. Rosa Verrett Wilson from Southwest Administration of the County of Los Angeles. Ms. Wilson worked for the Southwest Administration for 18 years before her retirement on June 30, 1999. During her long tenure with Southwest Administration, she never received a complaint about her work. Prior to her work with Southwest, Ms. Wilson spent 15 years working with Blue Cross of Southern California and 12 years in fashion in Seattle, Washington.

Ms. Wilson's good works are an inspiration to us all. For 24 years, Rosa Wilson has been a member of Mount Moriah Church. She met her husband, Brother Jordan H. Wilson, at Mount Moriah and has served on many church auxiliaries and committees. She has been a Sunday School teacher for the Nursery and